



# **Progress Toward Meeting the 2030 Food Loss and Waste Goal**

## **Briefing for Congress**

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November 2022

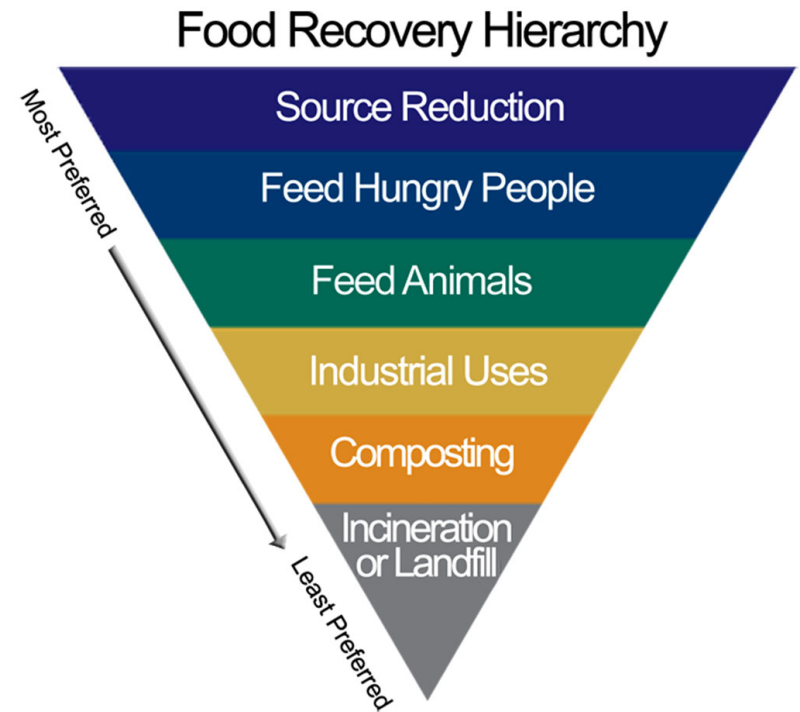
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Land and Emergency Management



# Purpose of Discussion

- Provide **background** on
  - National 2030 Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal & status
  - Food waste and climate change
- Discuss **current EPA efforts** to reduce food loss and waste
  - Circular Economy Strategy Series & Bipartisan Infrastructure Law grant programs
  - Food and organics strategy
  - EPA's Sustainable Management of Food efforts



# U.S. 2030 Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal

In 2015, EPA and USDA announced a goal to “**reduce food loss and waste by 50% by 2030**”

<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/united-states-2030-food-loss-and-waste-reduction-goal>



# Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal Progress

- The goal aims to **cut in half per capita food waste** sent to landfill, controlled combustion, sewer, co/anaerobic digestion, compost/aerobic digestion, and land application.
- 2016 baseline of **328 lbs/person**
  - 2030 goal is to cut in half to **164 lbs/person**
- 2018 – **334 lbs/person**
- [REDACTED]

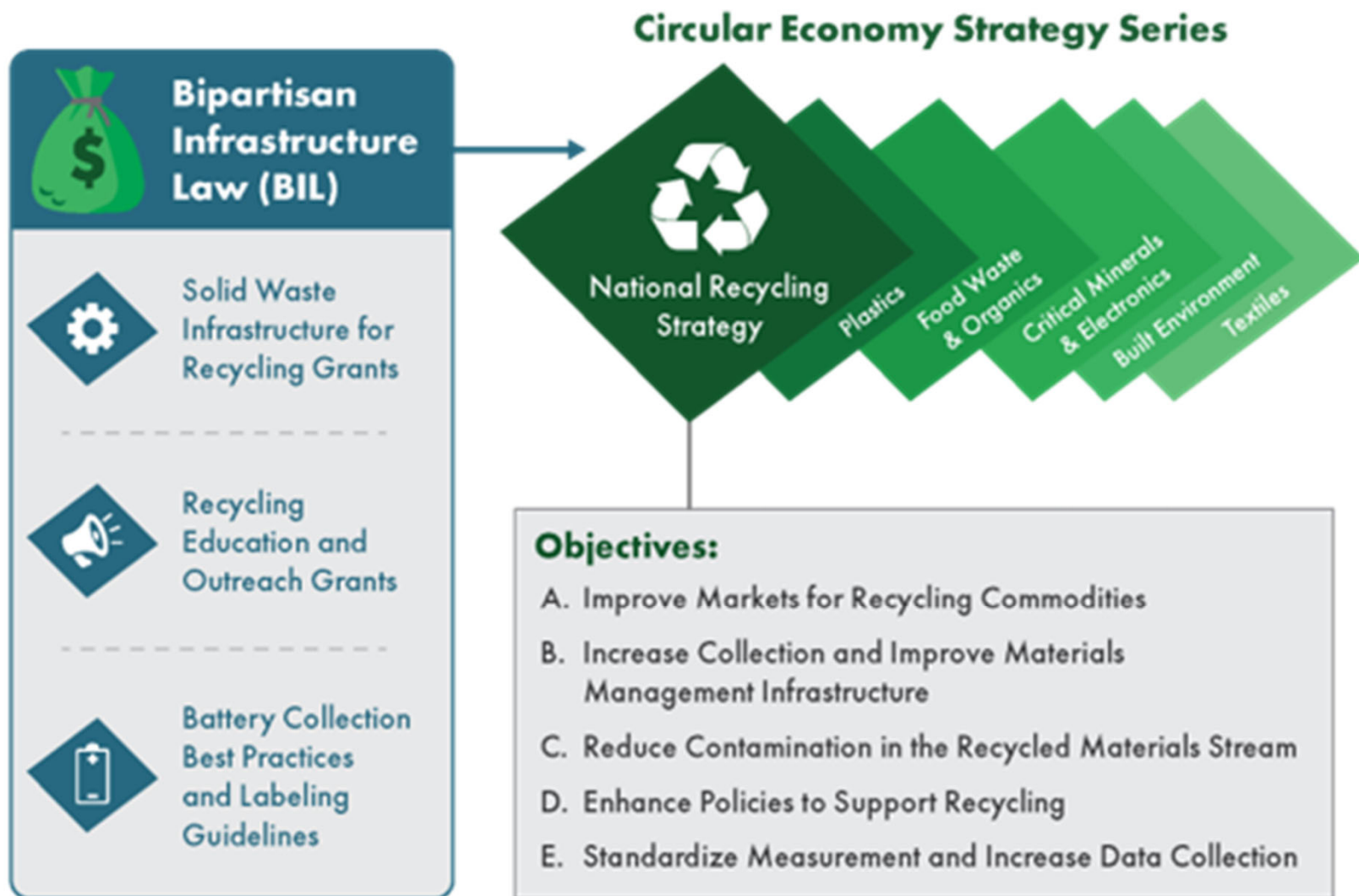


# Food Waste and Climate Change

- Food loss and waste accounts for 8% of global anthropogenic GHG emissions
- One-third of all food in the United States goes uneaten
- More than 85% of the GHG emissions associated with food waste occur during production, processing, and distribution
- Food comprises over 24% of municipal solid waste in landfills
- MSW landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the U.S., accounting for 14.5% of methane emissions in 2020







# Draft National Food Loss and Waste and Organics Strategy

Focuses on:

- **preventing** the loss and waste of food and increasing access to healthy, nutritious food, where possible, and
- **increasing** the recycling of organic materials, including food, yard and tree trimming waste, and other organic (carbon-based) waste.
- **enhancing** policies to support food loss and waste prevention and organics recycling

Identifies federal and stakeholder actions to create a stronger, more resilient, more equitable and more cost-effective food system and organics recycling solutions.



